

Inside Karelia: Kizhi, Solovetsky & Paanajarvi

Day 1. St.Petersburg

Pick-up at the airport or hotel in St.Petersburg, transfer to the train station (without guide).

~22:02 - Departure by the overnight train for Petrozavodsk.

Day 2. Petrozavodsk and Kizhi

~06:50 - Arrival in Petrozavodsk. Meet by the guide at the train station.

Transfer to the hotel (early check-in is to be paid additionally). Breakfast.

Petrozavodsk city walking tour.

Departure for the Island of Kizhi, located in Onego Lake by boat. Arrival at the Island, meet the

Museum guide there. Walking tour to the open-air Museum of Wooden Architecture of Kizhi -

Churches of the Transfiguration, Intercession, chapels and traditional wooden houses. Departure back for Petrozavodsk.

Time at leisure in Petrozavodsk.

Overnight at the hotel.

(B)

Day 3. Kivach Waterfalls, Petroglyphs or the White Sea - Baltic Canal

Breakfast at the hotel.

Departure for the White Sea coast (~450 km to the north).

Visit to the Kivach Waterfalls and Nature Reserve, featuring typical northern forest plants and animals.

Tour of the White Sea - Baltic Canal, constructed during Stalin's time mainly by Gulag prisoners or

walking tour to Petroglyphs (an archeological sight, prehistoric rock-carvings).

Arrival to the White Sea coast in the evening, accommodation and overnight at the hotel in the town of Kem.

(B)

Day 4. Solovetsky Islands

Breakfast at the hotel.

Departure for the Solovetsky Islands by the morning boat (travel time is about 2.5 hours). The Islands, located in the White Sea, are known for the unique historical and cultural heritage, as well as natural attractions, sea habitats - seals and white whales - are among them.

Arrival at Solovetsky Island, transfer to the hotel. Orientation. Check-in.

Walking tour to the Solovetsky Monastery, Fortress and the Gulag Museum.

Overnight at the hotel.

(B)

Day 5. Solovetsky Islands

Breakfast at the hotel.

Bus tour to Sekirnaya Mountain in the northern part of the Island; visit to the Church of the Ascension and the observation ground.

Transfer to the pier.

Departure for Kem by boat.

Accommodation in Kem.

Overnight at the hotel.

(B)

Day 6. Paanajarvi National Park

Breakfast at the hotel.

Transfer to the village of Pjaozersky (~250 km) by bus.

Arrival in Pyaozersky.

Lunch on own at a local cafe.
Registration in the Visit Center of the National Park.
Transfer to the Park.
Accommodation in the simple lodges.
Cooking meals on the fire.
Free time. Russian banya (sauna).
Overnight in lodges.
(B, D)

Day 7. Paanajarvi National Park

Breakfast.
Walking trip to the Kivakkakoski Waterfalls.
Lunch.
Boat cruise along Paanajarvi Lake towards Mantykoski Cascade. Observation of the Mantykoski Cascade.
Russian banya (sauna).
Dinner.
Overnight in lodges.
(B, L, D)

Day 8. Paanajarvi National Park

Breakfast.
Hiking tour to Kivakka Mountain (~500 m high).
Lunch.
Free time.
Dinner.
Overnight in lodges (we may stay overnight in a mini-hotel in Pyaozersky).
(B, L, D)

Day 9. Trip to St.Petersburg

Breakfast.
Transfer to the town of Kem (or Loukhi) (~250 km).
Lunch.
Transfer to the train station.
Departure by overnight train for St.Petersburg.
(B, L)

Day 10. St.Petersburg.

Noon – Arrival in St.Petersburg Ladozhsky train station.

Price:

62500 Rubles/person

SGL supplement at hotels: 5200 Rubles

Groups (6 pax +) 49800 Rubles/person (SGL supplement at hotels: 5200 Rubles)

Included:

1. Accommodation at tourist class hotels or mini-hotels in towns (with en-suite WC and shower);
2. Accommodation in simple lodges in Paanajarvi National Park (wooden cabins for 3-10 people, outside located dry toilets, water-basins and saunas);
3. Car/bus and boat transfers as per itinerary;
4. Meals as per itinerary (B - breakfast, L - lunch, D - dinner);
5. Entrance fees and tours as per itinerary;
6. English-speaking tour leader and local guides' services;

7. Train tickets St.Petersburg - Petrozavodsk and Kem - St.Petersburg (2nd class, 4-bed cabin for 4 people). Upgrade to 1st class (private cabin) may be available on request.

Dates:

June-Early September

Note:

1. All boat trips are weather dependent.
2. The sequence of the excursions can be changed.